

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 INT-05 GSA-01 /075 W

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R 291850Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8983

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ECON

SUBJECT: JAMAICA PUBLIC SERVICE STRIKE ENDS

REF: KINGSTON 3813

1. APPROXIMATELY 1,000 WORKERS FINALLY CONSENTED TO RETURN TO WORK OVER THE SEPTEMBER 27/28 WEEKEND FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR UNION LEADERS. THE LAST DITCH ATTEMPT TO GET THE WORKERS TO RETURN WAS THE RESULT OF A JOINT EFFORT ON THE PART OF SENATOR CARLYLE DUNKLEY, ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE NWU, AND HUGH SHEARER, BITU VICE PRESIDENT.

2. THE REQUEST OF THE TWO UNIONS TO RESUME DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH TTW JPS MANAGEMENT HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE TRIBUNAL. BOTH PARTS MUST REPORT ON THEIR NEGOTIATIONS TO THE TRIBUNAL BY OCTOBER 10.

3. THREE BAUXITE COMPANIES REMAIN CLOSED BY STRIKES -- REYNOLDS, KAISER, AND ALCAN -- AND THE OTHERS ARE STILL AFFECTED BY A "GO-SLOW". THERE APPEARS TO BE LITTLE INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE COMPANIES IN AN EARLY SETTLEMENT BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE

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ALUMINUM MARKET IN THE U.S. ALL THE COMPANIES HAD

ANNOUNCED PRODUCTION CUTBACKS EARLIER IN THE YEAR.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS NO INDICATION YET WHAT ACTION THE GOJ WILL TAKE AGAINST THE JPS WORKERS WHO DEFIED THE TRIBUNAL'S ORDER TO RESUME WORK ON SEPTEMBER 24. THE UNIONS MAY INSIST ANY PROCSECUTION BE DROPPED AS PART OF THE PRICE FOR ACCEPTING A WAGE SETTLEMENT SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 35 PERCENT (THE JPS) AND 90 PERCENT (THE UNIONS).
GERARD

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Message Attributes

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